

**Neopit Community Meeting
October 12, 2005 – 5:00 p.m.
Neopit Community Building**

Legislators Present: Laurie Reiter, Ann Marie Johnson and Stephanie Awonohopay (late).

Community Members Present: Roger McPherson, June Miller, Lee Ann Nacotee, Pat Tourtillott, Linda Caldwell and Gene Caldwell.

Laurie Reiter called the meeting to order at 5:05.

Laurie informed everyone that there is no set agenda and if they have any concerns or questions they should be brought up now.

- ***Is it possible that the Mill's smoke stack is responsible for spreading around Blasto and other respiratory problems?*** Awhile ago Gary Schuettpelz was going to do an air quality study but no one knows what the results were or if it was even done. Laurie will find out if the study was done and will also ask the Menominee Tribal Legislature if the issue can be placed on the MTL/MTE Task Force agenda.
- ***What are they doing with the dirt by the old railroad tracks?*** June stated that we don't need any more new homes in Neopit. People don't take care of the ones they have and there are several boarded up.
- ***Community members heard that the grant that was used to pay for the sidewalks in Neopit was used in Keshena first.*** If the tribe gets a grant for a specific purpose then it should be used for that and only that reason.
- ***Currently there are no street lights on 47 from the Middle School to the Myrtle Caldwell residence and there have never been any street lights on River St.*** This is a big concern because the kids run when they see cops in town. They run down 47 where there are no lights and use a pathway from 47 to River St. to where they can hide anywhere because there is no lights. There have also been fights on River St.

- ***Community members have heard that some officers refuse to go to Neopit.*** How can this happen? The person should be reprimanded for fired.
- ***Why aren't scenes assessed before the Fire Departments and Ambulance called?*** And who pays for these people to come out when they don't have to? There are so many times you hear on the scanner that there is an accident and the Fire Department & Ambulance are called and when the first officer gets there he/she realizes it's only a car in the ditch and has to call the other responders off.
- ***Community members said that one of the Tribal Investigators says that County is sticking their noses into Tribal investigations and screwing things up?***
- ***The old hotel in Neopit is a severe fire hazard.*** If the building would catch fire there could be several surrounding homes that would go with it. The building is currently empty and is privately owned.
- ***The Tribe has a Land Use Plan and its 20 years old and no revisions have ever been made.*** Is anyone ever going to work on changing the document to current issues?
- ***Stephanie Awonohopay arrived at 5:40 p.m.***
- ***Why do Tribes have to pay taxes on opening casinos?*** If any other business were to come to Wisconsin they wouldn't have to pay taxes so why should we? Instead of tribes fighting each other they should all be working together.
- ***Linda Caldwell wanted to say that she has been at a lot of meetings where the police department is ridiculed for not doing their jobs and just wanted to say that she thinks they are doing a good job. The work they do isn't easy and they can't be every place every minute of the day. Linda stated that if she needs the police she calls them and they are there.***
- ***Something needs to be done about all the requests for money that is going to Legislature. The same people making these requests are the same people you see at the Casino/Bingo every night. What the tribe needs is an investigative person to find out if there is a real need for money or not.***
- ***Some community members are concerned that that according to the MTE Management Plan that if the Chairman or Vice-Chairman is not present, the MTE President can run the meeting. So what if the President is non-Menominee? Does the tribe really want that person presiding over meetings?***

- ***The tribe is losing a lot of land by building BIA Roads. Community members would like someone from the tribe to actually add up the miles to see exactly how much land we've given back to the BIA.***

Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Legislative Staff Services